

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

March 21, 2017

The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and Lemon Grove Successor Agency

Call to Order

City Councilmembers Present:

Councilmember David Arambula, Councilmember Jerry Jones, Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Mendoza, and Councilmember Matt Mendoza

City Council Members Absent:

Mayor Racquel Vasquez

City Staff Present:

Lydia Romero, City Manager, Eric Craig; Associate Planner; David De Vries, Development Services Director; Daryn Drum, Division Fire Chief; Mike James, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Lt. May, Sheriff's Department; Gilbert Rojas, Interim Finance Director; and Corinne Russell, HR Manager.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Jones.

Changes to the Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza noted that staff has requested that item No. 5 be moved up on the agenda to be discussed before item No. 2.

Presentations

Lydia Romero introduced Cassandra Mendenhall, Executive Assistant.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza read a certificate of recognition for Lt. May service to the City Lemon Grove.

Public Comment

John L. Wood commented on City Council attendance at regional committees. He added that there was vandalism in his neighborhood and he went to the Lemon Grove Sheriff's Department, but would have preferred to have a deputy come to his residence to write a report.

Jessica McElfresh reported on the challenges for those interested in applying for and operating medical marijuana dispensaries in Lemon Grove.

Cynara Velazquez commented on Measure V and the City's process for those interested in applying for and operating medical marijuana dispensaries.

Sapphire Blackwood reported on the challenges for those interested in applying for medical and operating marijuana dispensaries.

Ebon Johnson commented in the challenges with the City's medical marijuana dispensary process and the uses that prohibit an application.

Marty Frank commented on language in Measure V.

Sean Silva commented on sales tax generated by a medical marijuana dispensary.

Richard Payne commented on challenges with the City's medical marijuana dispensary process and the uses that prohibit an application.

1. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of City Council Minutes

March 7, 2017 Regular Meeting

B. Ratification of Payment Demands

C. Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

D. Resolution Amending the Heartland Joint Powers Agreement

E. Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan Fee Amendment

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Arambula, Jones, J. Mendoza, M. Mendoza

Absent: Vasquez

Resolution No. 2017- 3491: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Amending the Current Heartland Communications Fire Authority Agreement to Allow the San Miguel Fire Protection District to Join as a Member Agency

Resolution No. 2017-3492: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Amending the Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan Fee

5. Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Gilbert Rojas reported that the annual financial report for the Fiscal Year ending on June 30, 2016 has been completed and he introduced Mr. Ahmed Badawi, CPA.

Mr. Ahmed Badawi, CPA, provided a presentation and was available to the City Council to answer questions.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to accept and file the audit passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Arambula, Jones, J. Mendoza, M. Mendoza

Absent: Vasquez

2. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Mid-Year Budgets

Gilbert Rojas reported that on June 21, 2016, the City Council adopted a City-wide Consolidated Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-17. Since the budget was adopted, the revenues and expenditures for FY 2015-16 have been finalized and audited.

Mr. Rojas recommended that the General Fund revenues be decreased in total by \$245,000. This entails a decrease in the revenue estimates in Sales Tax \$250,000, Building Permits \$70,000, however, there was an increase in Property Tax estimate of \$75,000.

The City Council previously approved an additional \$150,000 appropriation for the Sage project and staff is also recommending the appropriation of \$100,000 within the General Fund to supplement the Connect Main Street grant monies previously secured. Lowering “transfers out” to the Gas tax fund from \$100,000 to \$30,000.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Arambula, Jones, J. Mendoza, M. Mendoza

Absent: Vasquez

Resolution No. 2017-3493: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving the City of Lemon Grove Mid-Year Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and Authorizing Expenditures Thereto

3. Award Construction Contract for the Connect Main Street Segment I Phase I Project (Contract No. 2017-16)

Tim Gabrielson provided an overview of the grant and design aspects for the Connect Main Street Segment I Phase I Project.

October 14, 2016 the City contracted with Michael Baker International and KTUA to prepare the first phase of construction improvements for the Connect Main Street Project based upon the City Council approved Connect Main Street General Plan Amendment. Through the initial designs, the project limits and features along Main Street from Broadway to approximately City Hall were defined to be able to construct the project within the grant funding requirements and schedule. Within the HRPP Grant, there was a design and construction budget set aside of \$279,500 to start the first construction phase of the project. All HRPP Grant funds for design and construction must be used by June 30, 2017 or the Grant will expire. No extensions of time for this Grant is allowed.

The project's engineering estimate was \$210,000.00. The lowest responsive and responsible bid was submitted by New Century Construction, Inc. (New Century) in the amount of \$291,641.50.

Staff reviewed New Century's project work history, references, and construction license. Its project work history and reference checks were positive. New Century has successfully performed similar work for other local governments to include prior work with the City. New Century's contractor's license is current and in good standing with the State of California

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Arambula, Jones, J. Mendoza, M. Mendoza

Absent: Vasquez

Resolution No. 2017–3494: Resolution of the Lemon Grove City Council Awarding a Contract for the Connect Main Street Segment I Phase I Project (Contract No. 2017-16)

4. Public Hearing for Review of the 2016 General Plan Annual Progress Report

Eric Craig explained that State law requires cities and counties to annually review, conduct a public hearing, and authorize the submission of a General Plan Annual Progress Report (Report) to the State.

Mr. Craig provided an overview of the Report that includes the status of the General Plan implementation and the progress towards meeting regional housing needs. In preparing the Report, staff distributed sections of the Report to the appropriate City departments for review and input.

Councilmember Jones recommended the following clarifications to the language in the Report regarding the completion of the mural, skate park 2017, Palm Avenue interchange land use, Skyline Drive neighborhood/commercial area, and revitalized business areas.

Public Speaker(s)

There were no requests from the public to speak during the public hearing.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to close the public hearing and include changes recommended by Councilmember Jones, and adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:

Ayes: Arambula, Jones, J. Mendoza, M. Mendoza

Absent: Vasquez

Resolution No. 2017- 3495: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove Accepting the 2016 General Plan Annual Progress Report and Directing Staff to Submit the Report to the State of California in Accordance With Government Code Section 65400(A)(2

City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))

Councilmember Jones reported that SANDAG is processing a Request for Proposals to firms for an independent investigation regarding Measure A.

Councilmember Arambula reported on meetings at MTS and East County Economic Development Council.

Councilmember M. Mendoza had no reports.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza attended the Lemon Grove Interfaith Clergy and reported on the upcoming annual cross walk on April 14th. She also attended Heal Zone meetings, Assemblywoman Weber's Salute to Women Leaders event, the League of California Cities luncheon, SANDAG Transportation Committee meeting, reported on the Lyons Club eyeglass event, and a Soroptimist meeting.

City Manager and Department Director Reports

Mike James reported that the skate park construction is near completion and on April 15th there will be the re-grand opening from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Lt. May thanked the City Council for his time of service in Lemon Grove.

Lydia Romero introduced Lt. Amos who will be taking Lt. May's position.

Lt. Amos expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve Lemon Grove.

James Lough stated that he will provide the City Council with a memo related to Measure V.

Closed Session

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:
Three Cases

Closed Session Report: No reportable action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Susan Garcia

Susan Garcia, City Clerk